

REMARKS

The above amendments and following remarks are submitted in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed August 14, 2002. Having addressed all objections and grounds of rejection, claims 5 and 15, being all the pending claims, are now deemed in condition for allowance. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration to that end is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to corrected Fig. 6 of the drawings as previously submitted. Enclosed herewith is a modified Fig. 6, along with a red-line "mark-up" showing the changes made.

Specifically, the Examiner has apparently found an extra lead line without a reference label. Applicant has review the current state of Fig. 6 and has found no such extra lead line. Applicant does not object to removing such an extra lead line but simply cannot find it.

The Examiner has objected to "reference numbers 148 and 100" as "both pointing at the COOL ICE gateway". This ground of objection is respectfully traversed. As explained in the specification at page 29, lines 9-10, reference 148 refers to a

data pathway and reference 100 refers to COOL ICE gateway. The Examiner has made a similar objection with regard to reference numbers 158 and 102. In response thereto, reference number 158 and associated leader have been deleted. A similar objection was made with regard to the reference numbers 152 and 154.

Applicants respectfully traverse this objection. At page 29, line 9, of the specification, it is indicated that reference number 154 refers to a storage subsystem and reference number 152 refers to the corresponding data pathway.

The Examiner has further objected to the positioning of reference numbers 152, 148, 140, and 160. In response thereto, these reference numbers and their corresponding leaders have been moved. Objection was further made to reference numbers 152/154, 148/100, and 164/170. This objection is respectfully traversed as these references are defined in the specification at page 29, line 9; page 29, lines 9-10; and page 28, lines 17-18. In response to the objection regarding reference numbers 158/102, reference 158 and associated leader have been removed.

Claim 6 stands provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. In response thereto, claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 1-4, 7-14, and 16-20 stand finally rejected as obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,956,769, issued to Smith.

These claims have been canceled without prejudice. As a result, allowed claims 5 and 15 remain the only pending claims.

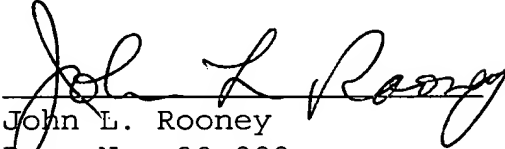
Having thus responded to each objection and ground of rejection, Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and allowance of claims 5 and 15, being the only pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Niels Gebauer, et al

By their attorney,

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John L. Rooney
Reg. No. 28,898
Suite 401
Broadway Place East
3433 Broadway Street N.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota
55413
(612) 331-1464